

## **APPENDIX E**

### **Summary of Potential Occurrence of Special Status Fish and Wildlife Species for Monument Butte Project Area**

**This page intentionally left blank.**

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
<b>Birds</b>				
American white pelican <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	S SPC	Inhabits areas of open water including large rivers, lakes, ponds, and reservoirs with surrounding habitats ranging from barren to heavily vegetated sites. Typically nests on isolated islands in lakes or reservoirs.	Low. In Utah, the species is known to nest on islands associated with Great Salt and Utah lakes.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs along the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>
Bald eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	BGEPA SPC	In Utah, breeding occurrences are limited to eight locations within four counties (Daggett, Davis, Grand, Duchesne, Emery, Grand, and Wayne counties). Winter habitat typically includes areas of open water, adequate food sources, and sufficient diurnal perches and night roosts.	Moderate. Bald eagle winter roosting habitat occurs along the eastern edge of the Project Area in the Green River riparian corridor.	<b>No. Winter roosts sites are located along the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>
Black swift <i>Cypseloides niger</i>	S SPC	This species requires waterfalls for nesting; typically the falls are permanent. Coniferous forests, often mixed conifer or spruce-fir forests, typically surround nesting sites, but this varies depending on elevation and aspect, and nest sites may include mountain shrub, aspen, or even alpine components. Streams that create the waterfalls are typically mountain riparian habitats.	None. Suitable habitat for this species does not exist in the Project Area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Bobolink <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	S SPC	Inhabits mesic and irrigated meadows, riparian woodlands, and subalpine marshes at lower elevations (2,800–5,500 feet). Suitable breeding habitat includes tall grass, flooded meadows, prairies, and agricultural fields; forbs and perch sites also are required.	Low. The species breeds in isolated areas of Utah, primarily in the northern half of the state. No breeding by this species has been documented in the Project Area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Burrowing owl <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	S SPC	Inhabits desert, semi-desert shrubland, grasslands, and agricultural areas. Nesting habitat primarily consists of flat, dry, and relatively open terrain; short vegetation; and abandoned mammal burrows for nesting and shelter. Breeding season: April through July 15.	Moderate to High. Scattered prairie dog colonies are located in the Project Area which this species may utilize for nesting.	<b>No. Burrowing owls, nesting sites, and suitable habitat in the Project Area.</b>
Ferruginous hawk <i>Buteo regalis</i>	S SPC	In Utah, this species resides mainly in lowland open desert terrain characterized by barren cliffs and bluffs, pinyon-juniper woodlands, sagebrush-rabbit brush, and cold desert shrub. Nesting habitat includes promontory points and rocky outcrops.	Moderate to High. Suitable foraging and nesting habitat for this species does occur in the Project Area.	<b>No. This species has been known to nest in the Project Area.</b>

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chysaetos</i>	BGEPA	Found in mountainous areas, canyons, shrublands, and grasslands, and in shrub-steppe habitats in the winter. Populations in the northern parts of the breeding range migrate south for winter; however, most populations in Utah are year-round residents of the same area. In Utah, this species occurs in nearly all habitats from desert grasslands to mountainous regions. They occur in grass-scrub, shrub-sapling, and young woodland habitats with open lands for nearby hunting. Nests are constructed on cliffs or in large trees. Breeding season generally occurs from February 15 through May 30.	High. Nesting and foraging habitat is found throughout the Project Area.	<b>No. This species has been known to nest in the Project Area.</b>
Grasshopper sparrow <i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	S SPC	Prefers grasslands of intermediate height and are often associated with clumped vegetation interspersed with patches of bare ground. Other habitat requirements include moderately-deep litter and sparse coverage of woody vegetation.	Low to Moderate. Breeding populations have been documented in the north portions of the state, including portions of Duchesne and Uintah Counties.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species is present in the Project Area.</b>
Greater sage-grouse <i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>	C	Inhabits upland sagebrush habitat in rolling hills and benches. Breeding occurs on open leks (or strutting grounds) and nesting and brooding occurs in upland areas and meadows in proximity to water and generally within a 1-mile radius of the lek. During winter, sagebrush habitats at submontane elevations commonly are used. Breeding season: March 1 through June 30.	Moderate. The species is widespread, but declining, in Utah, with extant populations in Uintah and Duchesne counties. Designated habitats have been identified in the Project Area.	<b>No. Designated habitats have been identified in the Project Area.</b>
Lewis's woodpecker <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	S SPC	Inhabits open habitats including pine forests, riparian areas, and piñon-juniper woodlands. Breeding habitat typically includes ponderosa pines and cottonwoods in stream bottoms and farm areas. In Utah, the species inhabits agricultural lands and urban parks, montane and desert riparian woodlands, and submontane shrub habitats. Breeding season: mid-May through mid-August.	Low to Moderate. In Utah, the species is widespread, but is an uncommon nester along the Green River. Breeding by this species has been observed in Ouray in Uintah county, and along Pariette Wash.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species may occur in the Project Area.</b>
Long-billed curlew <i>Numenius americanus</i>	S SPC	Inhabits shortgrass prairies, alpine meadows, riparian woodlands, and reservoir habitats. Breeding habitat includes upland areas of shortgrass prairie or grassy meadows with bare ground components, usually near water.	Low. Widespread migrant in Utah. Breeding birds are fairly common but localized, primarily in central and northwestern Utah. Potential nesting has been reported in Uintah County, but has not been confirmed.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species may occur in the Project Area.</b>

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
Mountain plover <i>Charadrius montanus</i>	S SPC	This species is typically associated with shortgrass prairie habitat composed primarily of blue grama and buffalo grass ( <i>Buchloe dactyloides</i> ). However, habitat characteristics in the Uinta Basin are notably different from shortgrass prairie breeding areas. In Utah, this species has been recorded as a casual migrant in Box Elder, Weber, Salt Lake, and Daggett counties. Six (6) documented historical sightings have occurred in the Uinta Basin. One known breeding population that occurred in Utah was located on Myton Bench. The Utah population bred in shrub-steppe habitat among white-tailed prairie dogs and near roadways or oil well pads.	Low to Moderate. The breeding population on Myton Bench has declined greatly in recent years. There have been no breeding bird sightings in Utah since 2005.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs in the Project Area.</b>
Northern goshawk <i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	S CS	Mature mountain forest and riparian zone habitats. The northern goshawk is a neotropical migrant that occurs across the northern regions of North America in scattered populations primarily in mature mountain forest and valley cottonwood habitats.	None. There is no suitable habitat for this species in the Project Area. Populations of northern goshawk have been identified in the mid elevations in the Uinta Mountains and the Book Cliffs.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Mexican spotted owl <i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>	T	This species is found primarily in canyons with mixed conifer forests, pine-oak woodlands and riparian areas. This species nests on platforms and large cavities in trees, on ledges, and in caves. Breeding and nesting season: approximately March through August.	None. No Mexican spotted owl suitable habitat or nests have been identified in the Project Area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Short-eared owl <i>Asio flammeus</i>	S SPC	Inhabits arid grasslands, agricultural areas, marshes, and occasionally open woodlands. In Utah, cold desert shrub and sagebrush-rabbit brush habitats also are utilized. Typically a ground nester: April 10 through June 15.	Moderate. The species breeds in northern Utah and occurs as a migrant potentially throughout the state. Known to occur in Uintah County, with occurrence probable in Duchesne County.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs in the Project Area.</b>
Western yellow-billed cuckoo <i>Coccyzus americanus occidentalis</i>	C	This species is considered to be a riparian obligate and usually occurs in large tracts of cottonwood/willow habitats. However, this species also has been documented in lowland deciduous woodlands, alder thickets, deserted farmlands, and orchards. Breeding season: late June through July.	Low to Moderate Potential. Small patches of potential habitat occur immediately east of the Project Area and breeding has been confirmed at the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge.	<b>No. Suitable habitat occurs along the Green River east of the Project Area.</b>

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
<b>Fish</b>				
Bluehead sucker <i>Catostomus discobolus</i>	S CS	Occupies a wide range of aquatic habitats ranging from cold, clear mountain streams to warm, turbid rivers. This species occurs in the lower portion of Pariette Draw and in the Green River below the Pariette Draw confluence. Fast flowing streams have been identified as important habitat for this species.	Moderate. Suitable habitat for this species occurs along portions of the Green River east of the Project Area.	<b>No. Suitable habitat occurs for this species</b>
Bonytail <i>Gila elegans</i>	E	This species is endemic to the Colorado River system and currently is restricted to the Green River in Utah. They use main channels of large rivers and favor swift currents.	Moderate. Designated Critical Habitat for this species occurs at the segment of the Green River located approximately 20 miles downstream of the Project Area.	<b>No. Habitat for this species occurs downstream from the Project Area within the Green River.</b>
Colorado pikeminnow <i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>	E	The range of the Colorado pikeminnow is restricted to the Upper Colorado River basin, upstream of Glen Canyon Dam. Adult Colorado pikeminnow use a variety of habitat types, depending on time of year, but mainly utilize shoreline runs, eddies, backwater habitats, seasonally flooded bottoms, and side canyons. They are most abundant in the upper Green River (between the mouth of the Yampa River and head of Desolation Canyon) and lower Green River (between the Price and San Rafael Rivers). Other concentration areas include the Yampa River, the lower 21 miles of the White River, and the Ruby and Horsethief Canyon area between Westwater, Utah, and Loma, Colorado.	Moderate to High. Critical habitat for this species is located along the Green River that flows through the eastern edge of the Project Area.	<b>No. Critical habitat is located along the Green River on the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>
Flannelmouth sucker <i>Catostomus latipinnis</i>	S CS	Adults occur in riffles, runs, and pools in streams and large rivers, with the highest densities usually in pool habitat. Young live in slow to moderately swift waters near the shoreline areas.	Moderate to High. This species occurs in the Green River from the Colorado confluence up to the Flaming Gorge Reservoir.	<b>No. Habitat for this species occurs in the Green River along the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
Humpback chub <i>Gila cypha</i>	E	Suitable habitat for this species is characterized by a wide variety of riverine habitats, especially canyon areas with fast currents, deep pools, and boulder habitat. This species originally inhabited the main stem of the Colorado River from what is now Lake Mead to the canyon areas of the Green and Yampa River Basins. Currently, it appears restricted to the Colorado River at Black Rocks and Westwater Canyon of the Green River, and Yampa Canyon of the Yampa River. Suitable habitat and critical habitat has been designated for this species in the Green River in Uintah County.	Moderate. Designated Critical Habitat for this species occurs along the segment of Green River located approximately 20 miles downstream of the Project Area.	<b>No. Habitat for this species occurs downstream from the Project Area within the Green River.</b>
Razorback sucker <i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>	E	This fish species is found in a variety of habitats including quiet eddies, pools, and mid-channel runs. They are usually found over sand or silt substrate, but occur over gravel and cobble bars. The largest population is known to occur in the upper Green River between the confluence of the Yampa River and the confluence of the Duchesne River. Adults also occur in the Colorado River near Grand Junction, Colorado, although numbers are very low. Critical habitat has been designated for this species in the Green River in Carbon, Duchesne, Emery, Uintah and Grand Counties.	Moderate to High. Critical habitat for this species is located along the Green River that flows through the eastern edge of the Project Area.	<b>No. Critical habitat is located along the Green River on the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>
Roundtail chub <i>Gila robusta</i>	S CS	This species is most often found in murky pools near strong currents in the main-stem Colorado River and its large tributaries. Adults inhabit low to high flow areas in the Green River; young occur in shallow areas with minimal flow.	Moderate. Known distribution of this species includes portions of the Green River along the eastern edge of the Project Area.	<b>No. Habitat for this species occurs in the Green River along the eastern edge of the Project Area.</b>
<b>Mammals</b>				
Big free-tailed bat <i>Nyctinomops macrotis</i>	S SPC	The species is rare in Utah, occurring primarily in the southern half of the state, although individuals may rarely occur in northern Utah. Prefers rocky and woodland habitats, where roosting occurs in caves, mines, old buildings, and rock crevices.	None. High cliffs that bats may use for roosting do not occur in the Project Area.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species may occur in the Project Area.</b>
Black-footed ferret <i>Mustela nigripes</i>	E	This species inhabits semi-arid grasslands and mountain basins. It is found primarily in association with active prairie dog colonies that contain suitable burrow densities and colonies that are of sufficient size.	None. Suitable habitat is not present.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.

APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
Canada lynx <i>Lynx canadensis</i>	E	Primarily occurs in Douglas-fir, spruce-fir, and subalpine forests at elevations above 7,800 feet. The lynx uses large woody debris such as downed logs and windfalls to provide denning sites for protection and thermal cover for kittens.	None. If extant in Utah, this species most likely occurs in montane forests in the Uinta Mountains.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Fringed myotis <i>Myotis thysanodes</i>	S SPC	A small bat that occurs in most of the western United States, as well as in much of Mexico and part of southwestern Canada. The species is widely distributed throughout Utah, but is not very common in the state. The fringed myotis inhabits caves, mines, and buildings, most often in desert and woodland areas.	Low. Based on the known range and the presence of suitable habitat, this species has the potential to occur in the Project Area.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs in the Project Area.</b>
Kit fox <i>Vulpes macrotis</i>	S SPC	Native to much of the western United States and northern Mexico. Although the species is not overly abundant in Utah, it does occur in the western, east-central, and southeastern areas of the state. The kit fox opportunistically eats small mammals (primarily rabbits and hares), small birds, invertebrates, and plant matter. The species is primarily nocturnal, but individuals may be found outside of their dens during the day. The species most often occurs in open prairie, plains, and desert habitats.	None. Suitable habitat for this species does not exist in the project area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Spotted bat <i>Euderma maculatum</i>	S SPC	Inhabits desert shrub, sagebrush-rabbitbrush, Pinyon-juniper woodland, and ponderosa pine and montane forest habitats. In Utah, the species also uses lowland riparian and montane grassland habitats. Suitable cliff habitat typically appears to be necessary for roosts/hibernacula. Spotted bats typically do not migrate and use hibernacula that maintain a constant temperature above freezing from September through May. Hibernation (in caves) and winter activity have been documented in southwestern Utah.	Low. The species potentially occurs throughout Utah; however, no occurrence records exist for the extreme northern or western parts of the state. Known occurrences have been reported in northeastern Uintah County.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs in the Project Area.</b>
Townsend's big-eared bat <i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>	S SPC	Inhabits a wide range of habitats from semi desert shrublands and piñon-juniper woodlands to open montane forests. Roosting occurs in mines and caves, in abandoned buildings, on rock cliffs, and occasionally in tree cavities. Foraging occurs well after dark over water, along margins of vegetation, and over sagebrush.	Low. The species occurs throughout much of Utah including Duchesne and Uintah counties. Relative to the project area, one individual was collected at the Ouray National Wildlife Refuge in 1980.	<b>No. Potential habitat for this species occurs in the Project Area.</b>



APPENDIX E: SPECIAL STATUS FISH AND WILDLIFE SPECIES

Species	Status <sup>1</sup>	Habitat Association	Potential for Occurrence Within the Proposed Monument Butte Project Area and Cumulative Effects Area	Eliminated From Detailed Analysis? (Yes/No)
White-tailed prairie dog <i>Cynomys leucurus</i>	S SPC	White-tailed prairie dogs are typically found in open shrublands, semi-desert grasslands, and mountain valleys, where they occur in loosely organized colonies that may occupy hundreds of acres on favorable sites. Similar to other prairie dogs, white-tailed prairie dogs spend much of their time in underground burrows, often hibernating during the winter.	High. According to prairie dog colony mapping, approximately 9,372 acres of prairie dog colonies are located in the Project Area.	<b>No. This species is known to occur in the Project Area.</b>
<b>Reptiles</b>				
Cornsnake <i>Elaphe guttata</i>	S SPC	An isolated population occurs in western Colorado and eastern Utah. Usually found near streams, or in rocky or forest habitats. This species is typically more active at night.	None. Typical habitats for this species do not occur in the Project Area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.
Smooth greensnake <i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>	S SPC	Typically inhabits meadows, grassy marshes, and moist grassy fields along forest edges. Its distribution ranges from northeastern Utah into central Colorado and northern New Mexico, and into the Northern Plains from the Canadian border south to Kansas and Missouri.	None. Typical habitats for this species do not occur in the Project Area.	Yes. Potential habitat for this species does not occur in the Project Area.

<sup>1</sup> Status: E = Federally listed as endangered; T = Federally listed as threatened; C = Federal candidate species; P = Federal proposed species; S = BLM sensitive species, Vernal Field Office; SPC = Wildlife species of concern; CS = Species receiving special mgmt. under a Conservation Agreement to preclude the need for Federal listing; BGEPA = Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.  
Source: Adapted from BLM Vernal Field Office, Special Status Fish and Wildlife Species List (UDWR 2011b).  
Source: UNHP-UDWR 2007, UNPS 2007.

**This page intentionally left blank.**